

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Re-examination and favorable reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following comments are respectfully requested.

Claims 10 and 13 - 27 are pending in the application. Currently, claims 10, 13 - 22 and 25 - 27 have been rejected; and claim 23 has been objected to.

By the present amendment, claims 10 has been amended to include the subject matter of objected to claim 23. Further, claims 14, 15 and 24 have been amended in light of the amendments to claim 10 and claims 16, 22, and 23 have been cancelled without prejudice.

In the office action mailed October 31, 2008, the Examiner objected to the drawings. This objection is now moot in view of the cancellation of claim 22.

Further in said office action, claims 10, 13, 20 - 22 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,279, 161 to Johnston; claims 14 - 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,631,074 to Herlihy, Jr.; and claims 17 - 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnston in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,182,812 to Goldsby.

The foregoing rejections are now moot in view of the incorporation of the subject matter of claim 23 into claim 10.

Claim 10 is the only independent claim in the application and is now in condition for allowance. All the other claims in the application depend directly or indirectly from claim 10 and thus are allowable as well. For these reasons, the instant application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe an additional amendment is needed to place the case in condition for allowance, she is hereby invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The instant amendment after final rejection should be entered since it places the case in condition for allowance. Further, it does not raise any issue of new matter and does not raise any issue which requires further consideration and/or search on the part of the Examiner.

No fee is believed to be due as a result of this response. Should the Director determine that a fee is due, he is hereby authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

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